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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,737	11/17/2003	Ted R. Meckley	750.1184	4668
21831	7590	12/17/2004	EXAMINER	
STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C. 1140 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 15th FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10036-5803			NGUYEN, PHUONGCHI T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/714,737

Applicant(s)

JOSHI, RAJASHRI

Examiner

Phuongchi Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 11, 12, 14, 16 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10, 13, 15 and 18-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 7/12/04 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The formal drawings of July 7, 2004 has been accepted.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 16, line 4, is objected to because of the following informalities: "a wire aligner" should be inserted in between of "a pairs of wires" and "comprising".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin (US6250949B1).

In regarding to claim 1, Lin discloses (figure 1) a modular plug for terminating a cable having twisted signal pairs of wires held therein, comprising a plug housing (12) having a plurality of contact blade-receiving slots (20) at a front end (19) and defining a longitudinally extending cavity opening (32) at a rear end (opposite to 19) (figure 2c); a strain relief member (27) defining a channel (opening of 27) for receiving the cable; and a wire aligner (13+26) interposed between the housing (12) and the strain relief member (27) and arranged at least partially in the cavity opening (32) in the housing (12), the wire aligner (13+26) aligning wires of the cable into specific position (in slots 24 and 15) relative to the slots (20) and including crimping means (of 26) for crimping the cable (column 5, lines 6-9) when received in the channel (opening of 27) of the strain relief member (27).

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In regarding to claim 16, Lin further discloses (figure 1) a combined cable crimping member and wire aligner for a modular plug comprising a strain relief member (27) defining a channel (opening of 27) for receiving a cable having twisted signal pairs of wires (Abstract, lines 8-9), a wire aligner (13+26) comprising a row of wire-receiving channels (15) formed at a front end and adapted to be positioned in alignment with the slots (20) in the housing (12) (column 4, lines 60-62), and a guiding structure (38, 24) for guiding the wires to the channels (opening of 27).

In regarding to claim 17, Lin discloses (figure 3a) the combined cable crimping member and wire aligner wherein the guiding structure (38, 24) comprises a first vertical support wall (adjacent 38) having a forward facing surface and a rearward facing surface (adjacent 23), the crimping means (of 26) being arranged on the rearward facing surface (adjacent 23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-7, 10-12, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weiss (US5305547) in view of Lin (US6250949B1).

In regarding to claim 1, Weiss discloses (figures 1 and 3) a plug for terminating a cable, comprising a plug housing (2) having a plurality of contact blade-receiving slots (6, 7, 8) at a front end and defining a longitudinally extending cavity opening (3a) at a rear end; a strain relief member (of 24, 72) defining a channel (27, formed by 72) for receiving the cable (13); and a wire aligner (11, 61 where 14, 15 located) interposed between the housing (2) and the strain relief member (of 24, 72) and arranged at least partially in the cavity opening (3a) in the housing

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(2), the wire aligner (11, 61) aligning wires (18, 19; 14, 15) of the cable (13) into specific position where each 18, 19; 14, 15 connect to 9, 9 of 5, 5) relative to the slots (6, 7, 8) and including crimping means (of 62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) for crimping the cable (13) when received in the channel (27, of 72) of the strain relief member (25, 73). Weiss lacks a twist signal pairs of wires. However, Lin teaches a twist signal pair of wires. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to modify the signal wires of Weiss to be a twist pairs as taught by Lin for increasing the connection between the cable and the wire aligner. A modular is a board term; a plug of Weiss can be a modular plug.

In regarding to claim 2, Weiss discloses (figures 1 and 3) the modular plug wherein the crimping means (of 62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) comprise a plurality of retention fingers (62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) extending rearwardly from the wire aligner (11, 61) into the channel (27, forming by 72).

In regarding to claim 3, Weiss discloses (figures 1 and 3) the modular plug wherein the retention fingers (62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) include serrations (14) formed on an inner surface at a rearward end for frictionally engaging the cable (13).

In regarding to claim 4, Weiss discloses (figures 1 and 3) the modular plug wherein the retention fingers (62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) are angled toward a center of the channel (27, forming by 72).

In regarding to claim 5, Weiss discloses (figures 1 and 3) the modular plug wherein the channel (27, forming by 72) has a front end adjacent the wire aligner (11, 61) and tapers inward from the front end, the retention fingers (62, 63, extended portion of 11 adjacent 14) being deformed into contact with the cable (13) by the tapering of the channel 27, forming by 72).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuongchi Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2012.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PCN

December 6, 2004


ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER